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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 7241-17

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Nobuya Kitaguchi et al.) Group Art Unit: 1743
Application No.: 10/049,239) Examiner: Lyle Alexander
Filed: February 11, 2002)
For: Analyzing Cartridge and Liquid) Confirmation No.: 9539
Feed Control)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action mailed February 5, 2004, the period for response having been extended to June 5, 2004 (a Saturday) by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are included in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.

Attachments to this amendment include a **new Abstract**.

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Accordingly, it is not believed claim 1 can be considered anticipated by Anderson and its withdrawal as a ground of rejection of the claim under §102(e) is therefore requested.

Nor is it believed any of claims 4-8 and 22-74, all of which depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, are anticipated by Anderson both for the reason claim 1 is not anticipated by Anderson and because they also include additional limitations not found in Anderson. For instance, Anderson does not disclose anything similar to the liquid feed control device that is used in combination with the vent of the reservoir containing the reagent, at least a part of which is a non-fluid reagent, of claims 45-72.

Reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of claims 1, 4-8 and 22-74 is therefore requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

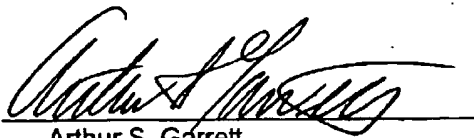
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 7, 2004

By:



Arthur S. Garrett
Reg. No. 20,338

Attachments: New Abstract